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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/673,643	10/31/2000	Masayuki Yokoi	M&M-031-USA	7093

7590                    12/07/2001  
Townsend & Banta  
Suite 500  
1225 Eye Street NW  
Washington, DC 20005

EXAMINER
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GRUN, JAMES LESLIE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1641

DATE MAILED: 12/07/2001

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Interview Summary</b>	Application No. <b>09/673,643</b>	Applicant(s) <b>YOKOI et al.</b>
	Examiner <b>James L. Grun, Ph.D.</b>	Group Art Unit <b>1641</b>

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) James L. Grun, Ph.D., USPTO

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Donald E. Townsend, Appl. Rep.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview 9 Nov 2001

Type: a) Telephonic      b) Video Conference  
c) Personal [copy is given to 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes      e) No. If yes, brief description:

Draft amendments to claims facsimile transmitted to the examiner.

Claim(s) discussed: all

Identification of prior art discussed:

N/A

Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:

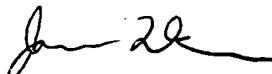
Applicant's representative informed that the proposed amendments to the claims, particularly the "consisting essentially of" limitation and the now recited "free state uncoupled" enzyme or enzyme inhibitor, would raise new issues requiring further consideration under 35 U.S.C. 112, 102, and/or 103. Applicant's representative proposed that the amendments would be submitted in a preliminary amendment with the filing of a RCE. The rejection under 35 USC 112, 1st para., with regard to the reagent of claim 1 and the method using this reagent, were discussed with regard to whether steric hindrance would also reduce interaction of a large substrate with the enzyme, as aggregation of the reagent does for the implicitly large enzyme inhibitor as disclosed on page 10 of the specification, and thereby unpredictably affect any result in the assay. Limitations on the size or on the ability of a substrate to not be so inhibited were discussed. Applicant's representative proposes that the specification will be considered for potential support for any appropriate limitation.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

i) It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview (if box is checked).

Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

  
**JAMES L. GRUN, PH.D.**  
**PATENT EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT 1641**